# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MAY 1981

## Lebanese Crisis

Military Situation--Citing a Syrian military spokesman, SANA reported that Syrian air defenses downed an Israeli reconnaissance plane over the Syrian coastal region of Latakia. The plane was seen falling into the sea 10 km southwest of Latakia, SANA said. However, Jerusalem radio reported that IDF spokesman categorically denied the Syrian claim. Voice of Lebanon radio, citing eyewitnesses, reported this morning that the Syrians have moved their missiles in the Al-Biqa' valley to other unspecified sites. Beirut was calm apart from two clashes between local organizations, Beirut radio reported. The radio said artillery exchanges resumed in the south, and the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that Palestinian artillery responded to Israeli and Christian militia shelling of Arnun, Shaqif, Hasbayyah and areas around An-Nabatiyah. Sidon was shelled in the evening, Beirut radio reported. According to Damascus radio, Israel has continued to reinforce its positions and mass troops along the border strip.

Habib Mission--U.S. Special Envoy Philip Habbib held a 2-hour meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday evening, Jerusalem radio reported. In remarks to journalists after the meeting, broadcast by the radio, Habib said diplomatic efforts and the search for peace are continuing. During the meeting, Habib briefed Begin on his visits to Riyadh and Damascus, the Israeli prime minister disclosed. Begin revealed that he will meet Habib again on 20 May after consulting with the Cabinet. He also praised Habib's "supreme and very sophisticated efforts to reach a peaceful solution." Earlier, Damascus radio reported without comment Habib's meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and his subsequent departure from Syria. Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Begin briefed an extraordinary Cabinet meeting on 20 May on his meeting with Habib. The radio quoted the Cabinet secretary as saying after the session that decisions made today increase the chances for solving the crisis in peaceful ways. Prime Minister Begin's office again denied this morning that there is any U.S. plan to stop or limit Israeli Air Force flights over Lebanon, the radio said.

Begin, Shamir Comments--According to Jerusalem television, Prime Minister Begin said Israel will not go to war against Syria unless it is attacked first. The television also reported that Begin praised Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat for saying that the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty will last despite the crisis with Syria. According to Jerusalem radio, Israel Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said Israel is not willing to wait for weeks or months for resolution of the missile crisis. However, the situation is not a matter of days or hours either, he added. He said time is an important factor because the Syrians are stepping up their preparations for war. The radio also reported that Shamir said the presence of a Libyan unit in Lebanon strengthens the government's position that Israel's security is threatened by the occupation of Lebanon by enemy forces. He added that everything must be done to fight this presence, even by means of an operation in Lebanon.

Syrian Comment--According to Damascus radio, the daily ATH-THAWRAH said today that Syrian missiles have wrecked Israel's delusion and arrogance, deterred its aggression and shown that Syria will neither retreat from, bargain over nor relinquish the Arab nation's rights and dignity. Syria's stand has started yielding gains for the Arabs in their confrontation with Israel and its imperialist supporters, ATH-THAWRAH said. TISHRIN, also reviewd by the radio, said Syria's decision to protect Lebanon's airspace will establish the centrality of the Syrian role, not only in the Arab-Israeli conflict, but also in the affairs of the whole region.

Saudi Comment--In an 18 May commentary, Riyadh radio said Saudi Arabia's reaffirmation of its stand alongside Lebanon and Syria in the current crisis is a pan-Arab duty for the sake of peace and safety of the Arab lands and people. In a 19 May commentary Riyadh radio said that Saudi Arabia's stand represents strong and effective support for Arab steadfastness and demonstrates that the Arab leadership shoulders its responsibilities.

Libyan Offer--Beirut radio reported that after a meeting with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, the head of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Beirut said he had offered Libyan help in defending southern Lebanon and "complete air cover" for the defense of Lebanese territory. Commenting on the meeting to the radio, Al-Wazzan said military assistance to Lebanon must come within the framework of a unified Arab strategy. He welcomed any Arab assistance to provide arms to the Lebanese Army and help rebuild it.

Libya Contacts Arab League--JANA reported that in response to a letter from Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis underlining the absence of a unified Arab strategy for dealing with the Palestinian issue, Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has started serious contacts with the Arab League with a view to forming a common Arab plan for assuming responsibility for the Lebanese situation.

## Sterner Tour

Jerusalem radio quoted U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Sterner as saying during his visit to Israel that the fundamental problems of establishing the Sinai force have been resolved and that he believes the force will be in place on schedule. According to the radio, Sterner said the questions of financing and of which countries will participate still have to be settled. MENA later reported Sterner's arrival in Cairo.

## Iran

Mediation Group Meets--Tehran radio reported that the first meeting of the joint Iranian-U.S. mediation group dealing with the outstanding issues concerning the freed U.S. hostages was held at the International Court of Justice at The Hague. According to the radio, Iran suggested that the three impartial members of the court to be chosen in accordance with the provisions of the Algerian accord be Algerian nationals.

Ship Released--A Foreign Ministry statement, broadcast by Tehran radio, announced that Iran has ordered the release of the ship seized by the Iranian Navy on 30 April while conducting seismological research on behalf of Kuwait near the Iranian coast. The statement said the ship's release follows a Kuwaiti undertaking to refrain at present from any new exploration operations in the vicinity of the Iranian continental shelf.

Foreign Ministry Employee Arrested--A Foreign Ministry statement, broadcast by Tehran radio, announced that two men, one of whom is the director general of the Foreign Ministry's Consular Affairs Department, may have been arrested for attempting to steal classified documents from the ministry. The radio later broadcast a statement from President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr's office denying the report "in the form that it was published" and stating that the documents were taken by a representative of the president's office who had written permission to review them.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 097 20 May 1981

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Ratebzad Meets With Tadzhik Education Minister C 1
Briefs: Revolution Defenders Register; Clerical Support for Revolution; Leader of Saboteurs Captured C 1

BANGLADESH

Romanian Minister Arrives in Dacca 17 May D 1
Calls on Leaders D 1
Holds Press Conference D 1
Oil Exploration Contract Signed With Shell [BANGLADESH OBSERVER 15 May] D 1

INDIA

Covernment Holds Talks With Assam Leaders E 1
Groups Protest U.S. Arms Sales to Pakistan E 1
BSF's Performance on Bangladesh Border Reviewed E 1
Paper Condemns Bangladesh Gunboat Diplomacy E 2
Cultural Exchange Agreement Signed With PDRY E 2
Economic Talks Held With Algeria in New Delhi E 2

PAKISTAN

Pressnote Issued on Student Violence in Quetta F 1
DAWN: Eight Sind Ministers Sworn In 14 May [15 May] F 1
Air Force Concludes Jetstream Exercise 19 May F 1

IRAN

Iranian, U.S. Teams Meet in The Hague 18 May I 1
Shipping Lanes in Northwest Persian Gulf Defined I 1
Detained Kuwaiti Seismological Ship Released I 1
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Visits Syria, Holds Talks [cross-reference] I 1
Iranian-Soviet Transportation Committee Meets I 1
Soviet Ambassador Meets Foreign Ministry Official I 2
Network Stealing Secret Documents Discovered I 2
Bani-Sadr Office on Arrest I 2
Yazdi Reviews 3-Man Committee Discussions I 3
Commission Investigating Torture Publishes Report I 3
PARS: Khuzestan Pipeline Fire Under Control I 4
Communique 507 on Battles in South, West I 4
Guards Corps Communique on Battles in West I 6
Strikers Demand Inquiry Into Official Negligence I 6
Kurdish Radic Reports Attack on Urumiyeh Garrison [Voice of Iranian Kordestan] I 7
Kurds Reportedly Foil Guards' Attacks [Free Voice of Iran] I 7
Radio Iran: Afghan Mercnearies Hired by Khomeyni I 7
Free Voice of Iran on Clashes in Baluchestan I 7
Radio Iran on Fighting I 8
Radio Iran: SAVAK Agents Hired To Organize SAVAMA I 8
Voice of Iran Reports Attempt on Beheshti's Life I 8

RATEBZAD MEETS WITH TADZHIK EDUCATION MINISTER

LD172332 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 May 81

[Excerpt] Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, met with R. Dadaboyev, minister of education of the Tadzhik SSR, at her office in the Revolution Council headquarters. At this meeting, which was attended by Dr Faqir Mohammad Ya' Qubi, acting minister of education, and the entourage of the Tadzhik minister of education, Dr Ratezbad conferred with them in an atmosphere of friendship and explained the educational policy of the country on the (?healthy) education and training of students. Dr Ratebzad recalled with appreciation the selfless aid of the great land of the soviets to the DRA Ministry of Education.

In return, the Tadzhik education minister praised the developments that, despite the intrigues and conspiracies of the enemies of the revolution and of the reactionary circles, have been gained in the area of education and training in Afghanistan during the new development stage of the Sawr Revolution.

At the meeting, the Tadzhik minister presented gifts from the Tadzhik cultural delegation to Dr Ratebzad, which were accepted with thanks.

BRIEFS

REVOLUTION DEFENDERS REGISTER--Kabul, 17 May (BAKHTAR)--Ever increasing numbers of youth and toilers are forming groups of defenders of the revolution throughout Afghanistan to practically display their solidarity with the party and people's government. Recently, more than a thousand youth of Dowlatabad District, Balkh Province during a grand rally have registered their names in the groups of defenders of the April Revolution to fight the enemies of the country's honour. Speaking at the rally attended by thousands of people of Dowlatabad District, one of them expressed his and his colleagues' firm resolve to fight against the counter-revolutionary elements till the complete annihilation of the last pockets of the bands of mercenaries and reactionaries. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 18 May 81 LD]

CLERICAL SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTION--Kabul, 17 May (BAKHTAR)--Religious leaders and Islamic scholars throughout Afghanistan are actively voicing their support for the revolutionary government in its bid to secure tranquility and prosperity of the people. In a large public gathering held at the congregational (Jamei Mosque) at Garmser District, attended also by the governor of Helmand, the religious leaders and elders pledged their allout cooperation in implementing the objectives of the April Revolution. In another meeting at Mazar-e Sharif, the clergy, elders and members of the Islamic Affairs Department of Balkh Province condemned the inhuman acts of the counter-revolutionaries and pledged "untiring cooperation for implementing the useful programmes of the government". Elders, clergy, farmers and other residents of the Hazt Khail, Kona De, Gazy Khail, Ghochak, Shir Khan Khail, Wasi Khail and Mamazy villages of the Kuhestan District of the Kapisa Province, recently in a meeting with Mohammad Gul, secretary of the provincial committee, reaffirmed their "support for the party and government." [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 18 May 81 LD]

LEADERS OF SABOTEURS CAPTURED--Kabul, 19 May (BAKHTAR)--Several bands of saboteurs who disrupted peace and order along the roads of the villages of Charsang and Bangala, Balkh District of Balkh Province and in Char Dara District of Qonduz Province were crushed by the security forces. Mohammed Anwar, their ringleader, was captured and is being interrogated. Assorted quantities of Chinese and Egyptian arms with a number of bullets were confiscated from them. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0417 GMT 19 May 81 LD]

ROMANIAN MINISTER ARRIVES IN DACCA 17 MAY

BK170858 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] The fourth session of the Bangladesh-Romania joint commission on economic and technical cooperation began in Dacca today. Bangladesh is being represented by Finance Minister Saiful Rahman while Romania by Minister for Machine Building Ioan Avram.

The Romanian minister arrived in Dacca this morning at the head of a seven-member delegation. During his 4-day stay, Ioan Avram will call on the president. He will also meet Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed besides visiting the Jaidevpur machine tools factory and [words indistinct].

Calls on Leaders

BK181636 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Visiting Romanian Minister for Machine Building Ioan Avram has had separate meetings with Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed and Agriculture Minister Nurul Islam in Dacca today. Jamaluddin Ahmed briefed the Romanian minister about the overall plan strategy, target and possible areas of cooperation in industrial and other fields between the two countries during the second 5-year plan period.

Holds Press Conference

BK191722 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Bangladesh is to receive economic assistance worth $500 million from Romania. This was announced by Romanian Minister for Machine Building Ioan Avram at a news conference in Dacca today. The credit will be utilized for the implementation of the second 5-year plan.

Of the total, $250 million will be given immediately and the rest after utilization of the first installment.

The two countries will sign an agreement for the first installment of the credit in Dacca tomorrow. The Romanian assistance will be utilized in the fields of oil and natural gas exploration, chemical and petrochemical sector, textiles, hydraulic power station, agricultural and food processing industry.

OIL EXPLORATION CONTRACT SIGNED WITH SHELL

BK191256 Dacca BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 May 81 p 1

[Excerpt] Shell Petroleum Development Company of the Netherlands has been given a production sharing contract for petroleum exploration over a 5,170 square mile area in Chittagong Hill tracts and Chittagong districts, reports BSS.

A tripartite agreement to this effect was signed in Dacca on Thursday with Bangladesh Government Petro Bangla and Shell Petroleum Development Company of the Netherlands.

The contract is for a total period of 25 years including 8 years exploration period, 2 years development period and 15 years development period.

The expenditure during the 8 years exploration period, which will amount to nearly taka 180 crore, is expected to be borne by the Shell compnay.

Shell will start seismic survey in the next dry season and commence drilling within June 30, 1983.

The Dutch company will carry out drilling operations at least at three locations during the first 4 years while another six wells will be drilled during the next 4 years, it was learnt.

GOVERNMENT HOLDS TALKS WITH ASSAM LEADERS

BK181725 Hong Kong AFP in English 1645 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] New Delhi, 18 May (AFP)--The fate of the current latest round of talks between the government of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and the Assam agitators here on the problem of "illegal immigrants" from Bangladesh and Nepal in the eastern frontier state remained as uncertain as before.

Even as no tangible progress has been reported, one of the agitation leaders taking part in the talks complained to reporters that the government was not interested in finding a solution and was testing their patience.

Girin Barua of the All-Assam People's Action Council, which has been jointly leading the stir with the All-Assam [words indistinct], said the talks were bound to fail as was evident from the casualness with which Interior Minister Zail Singh and other officials were going about it.

Mr. Singh at the same time said he was hopeful of a settlement at the current round of talks, which began Saturday last.

A proposal by Mr. Singh today to form a "small committee" comprising representatives of both sides to have discussions from tomorrow towards evolving an agreed formula on the future of such immigrants who entered the state between 1961 and 1971 has been the only outcome of the talks so far.

The question of these immigrants of the 1961-71 period had been the major bone of contention that led to the failure of earlier rounds of talks as well. The agitators have agreed for regularisation of those who migrated between 1951 and 1961 through their continued settlement in the state but wanted those who have come during 1961-71 to be shifted to other states and the post-1971 immigrants deported from India. The government side, the agitationists have claimed, has agreed earlier on the deportation of the post-1971 immigrants.

GROUPS PROTEST U.S. ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN

BK191610 Hong Kong AFP in English 1345 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] New Delhi, 19 May (AFP)--About 100 representatives of various local organisations today staged a demonstration outside the U.S. Embassy here to protest against the U.S. Army supplies to Pakistan. Carrying placards the demonstrators displayed slogans like "Arms supplies to Pakistan are a danger to world peace."

A memorandum, presented to an official of the embassy, said: "We hold the confirmed view that the proposed supply is aimed at disturbing the balance of power in the Asian Continent. If past experience can be a guide the arms supplied to Pakistan have been used and are likely to be used in future also for terrorising the neighbouring peace-loving countries."

BSF'S PERFORMANCE ON BANGLADESH BORDER REVIEWED

BK200643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 May 81

[Text] A high-level coordination committee on border security has reviewed the performance of the Border Security Force [BSF] and the steps necessary to strengthen the West Bengal-Bangladesh borders. The committee, comprising representatives of the Army, the BSF and the West Bengal Home Department, in its meeting in Calcutta yesterday expressed satisfaction with the functioning of the BSF.

West Senegal Chief Secretary A.K. Sen later told newsmen that intensified vigil on the borders has succeeded in large seizures of smuggled goods.

PAPER CONDEMNS BANGLADESH GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY

BK191606 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1454 GMT 19 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial entitled "More Than an Island," the HINDUSTAN TIMES, while referring to the "gun boat diplomacy by Dacca over its presumed rights to New Moore Island," writes that Dacca's case is hardly credible. The island was first discovered in 1974 when India staked its claim on it without generating any adverse reaction from Bangladesh. It was only five years later in 1979, the paper points out, that Dacca decided, for whatever reason, to put in its own claim to the new piece of real estate thrown up by the vagaries of the many streams that discharge their waters in the Bay of Bengal. The paper goes on to say that the truculant manner in which Dacca has chosen to internationalise the New Moore Island issue proves that it finds merit in taking a leaf out of the Pakistan book: When in trouble at home, create a diversion abroad. The paper observes that it can be no coincidence that a long period of anti-Indian propaganda in Bangladesh official and private media preceeded the aforesaid naval misadventure. With Dacca's apology for a navy it is inconceivable that its own gun boats should have the temerity to threaten an Indian survey ship unless there is something more to this show of strength.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PDRY

BK191625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] India and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen have signed a cultural exchange program. The program, signed in New Delhi today, envisages an exchange of university teachers and cooperation between radio and TV organizations. There will also be exchanges of agricultural scientists, sports teams and folklore groups.

During discussions with the delegation accompanying South Yemen President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, India has offered to supply 50 tons of wheat seeds and some spraying equipment and agricultural machinery to that country.

Yemeni Minister for Home Affairs Salih Muslih Qasim called on Union Home Minister Zail Singh in New Delhi today. During the meeting, all possible assistance have been offered to that country in the field of police organization and training.

ECONOMIC TALKS HELD WITH ALGERIA IN NEW DELHI

BK191621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Possibilities of closer economic and technical cooperation between India and Algeria were discussed at a meeting of high-level delegations of the two countries in New Delhi today. The setting up of joint ventures and the sharing in the Indian experience and planning also figured prominently.

The Algerian delegation was led by the planning minister of that country and the Indian side by Union Minister for Planning and Labor N.D. Tiwari.

PRESSNOTE ISSUED ON STUDENT VIOLENCE IN QUETTA

BK191535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] The district magistrate in Quetta issued a pressnote this afternoon that says that about 300 students from various faculties gathered at the science college compound, where they delivered speeches against the government, stoned cars and tried to damage public properties. The police resorted to a baton charge to disperse the illegal gathering. The students then started stoning the policemen and took the principal and teachers hostage.

The pressnote states that the police ultimately had to fire teargas; the principal and teachers were recovered from the students.

According to the pressnote, several students have been arrested and the situation is completely under control. The pressnote says that the government and the district administration want the students to concentrate on their education, to maintain peace and order in educational institutions and to refrain from mischievous and undesi able activities.

DAWN: EIGHT SIND MINISTERS SWORN IN 14 MAY

GF170540 Karachi DAWN in English 15 May 81 p 1

[Text] The eight Sind ministers sworn in yesterday and the portfolios allotted to them are:

Mr Rasool Bux Talpur: irrigation and power, labor and cooperation, with additional charge of planning and development.

Mr Justice Syed Ghous Ali Shah: education, culture and sports, with additional charge of law.

Sardar Ghulam Mohammad Mahar: food, agriculture, livestock and fisheries, with additional charge of relief and rehabilitation.

Syed Nazar Shah: health, information and tourism.

Mr Ashraf W. Tabani: industries and mineral development, with additional charge of finance, excise and taxation.

Begum Tazeen Faridi: social welfare.

Mr Dost Mohammad Faizi: transport, zakat and usher.

According to a notification, the governor, Lt Gen S.M. Abbasi, will retain services and general administration, home, housing, town planning, local government and rural development, wildlife and land utilization, and awqaf.

AIR FORCE CONCLUDES JETSTREAM EXERCISE 19 MAY

BK091634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] The Jetstream exercises of the Pakistan Air Force, which lasted for 12 days, came to an end this afternoon. All combat units of the Pakistan Air Force participated in the exercises, which were designed to test new war strategies and assess the overall effectiveness of the air force. Air Force Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, in his order of the day on the conclusion of the exercises, thanked all the commanders, officers, junior commissioned officers and men for their excellent performance.

IRANIAN, U.S. TEAMS MEET IN THE HAGUE 18 MAY

LD191828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 May 81

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Bureau the first session of the Iranian and American joint mediation group, dealing with the outstanding issues concerning the freed U.S. hostages, was held yesterday morning at The Hague International Court. During the sessions, some preliminary discussions were held and the mediation team from the Islamic Republic of Iran suggested that the three impartial members of the court, to be chosen in accordance with the provisions of the Algerian accord, be Algerian nationals.

SHIPPING LANES IN NORTHWEST PERSIAN GULF DEFINED

GF191912 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 May 81

[Statement by the Iranian Directorate of Ports and Maritime Shipping "on guaranteeing merchant shipping in the Persian Gulf"--date not given]:

[Text] In view of the dangers existing in the northwestern region of the Persian Gulf, merchant ships sailing for non-Iranian ports should comply with the following instructions in order to ensure the safety of merchant shipping in the region:

1. After reaching 12 miles southwest of the island of (Pardi), ships must sail west of the axis which links a point 27 degrees and 55 minutes north and 49 degrees and 53 minutes east to a point 29 degrees and 10 minutes north and 49 degrees and 12 minutes east.

2. As far as the area of the axis 48 degrees and 40 minutes east, all ships must sail south of an axis 29 degrees and 10 minutes north.

3. Ships sailing to Iranian ports must comply with the maritime declaration No 50/22 issued by the Directorate of Ports and Maritime Shipping of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Failure to comply with these instructions may lead to the obstruction of free shipping and endanger the safety of ships. In such a case the Iranian authorities will bear no responsibility.

DETAINED KUWAITI SEISMOLOGICAL SHIP RELEASED

GF191239 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran declared in a statement that, in view of the Kuwaiti Government's pledge to refrain from carrying out any reconnaissance activities near Iran's territorial waters, instructions were issued at 1200 today, 19 May, to guide the Panamanian ship that was seized on 30 April to Kuwaiti waters.

HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI VISITS SYRIA, HOLDS TALKS

For Damascus reportage on the 17-19 May visit to Syria by Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs, including reports on his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, see the Syria section of the 19 and 20 May editions of the Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT.

IRANIAN-SOVIET TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETS

GF181043 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] The 10th meeting of the Iranian-Soviet affiliated and permanent transportation committee began in Tehran yesterday.

This meeting, which is held annually, will discuss bilateral issues in the fields of transportation, customs and ports. The meeting will last 1 week.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR MEETS FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL

GF192017 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran met today with Ahmad 'Azizi, assistant foreign minister for international and economic affairs. They discussed trade and economic relations between the two countries.

The Islamic Foreign Ministry aide explained the principle of "Neither East nor West" pursued by the Islamic Republic of Iran in its foreign policy. He said: These relations could be positive if the Soviet Union adopts a just stand toward us and could be negative if such a stand is unjust, as is noticeable in some cases.

NETWORK STEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS DISCOVERED

LD191312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the following statement has been issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On Sunday 17 May, a person by the name of Morteza Fazli-Nezhad, accompanied by another person and with the collaboration of an employee, made photocopies of a large number of classified and secret documents from the consular section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the pretense of reviewing the files of the purged people [of the Foreign Ministry] and carried them out of the ministry. The security officials were immediately informed and the person was arrested.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will pursue this matter decisively and will inform the dear compatriots in due course.

According to the Central News Bureau, following the arrest of one of the people who intended to steal the classified and secret documents of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this morning another person by the name of Naseri, director general of the consular affairs department, was also arrested on the orders of the revolution prosecutor.

According to this report, on Sunday Morteza Fazli-Nezhad had been introduced as an officer in charge of reviewing the files of the purged people at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and had gone to the ministry in a government car, registration No 92942, Tehran (?S); he was arrested while trying to take the documents out of the ministry. He is at present in detention.

The necessary information on the discovery of the network which intended to steal the classified and secret government documents will be brought to the attention of the public in due course.

Bani-Sadr Office on Arrest

LD191728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 May 81

[Excerpts] The president's office issued a statement this afternoon concerning a Foreign Ministry statement on the theft of some secret and classified documents. The text of the statement, which has been given to PARS, is as follows:

In His exalted name. In connection with the statement issued by the Foreign Ministry last night, first, (?we) wish to deny the news in the form that it was published, and second, to state that the documents were taken by a representative of this office who was appointed to look into the files of the foreign and other ministries and who had written permission to do so from the country's competent authorities.

[Signed] The presidential office

YAZDI REVIEWS 3-MAN COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

LD192102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, the three-man mediation committee met today. At the end of the session, Mr Yazdi, the committee's spokesman, told the Central News Bureau about the issues discussed. He said: The first issue discussed was the report on the meeting which Hojjat ol-Eslam Eshraqi held with the prime minister and the meeting which I held with the president. Our reports were discussed and the remarks of the prime minister and the president were analyzed. In this connection, the committee decided that future meetings would be joint meetings: that is, the three members of the committee should hold separate meetings with the president and the prime minister to discuss issues which can cause differences of opinion and which can be solved. In the committee's opinion the first step in solving basic differences is to recognize the points which cause differences. Attempts should then be made to bring the views on these issues closer together, both in practice and in political arguments.

Mr Yazdi added: The next issue at today's session was to investigate issues which had been referred to the committee during the past few days. In brief, they concerned three speeches made in Mashhad, Shiraz and the bazaar in Tehran. He added: In this respect, and in accordance with the orders of the imam telling people to refrain from speeches which might cause discord or differences, we decided that the first stage of the committee's duty is to remind the esteemed speakers that they should refrain from raising issues which might cause discord or differences and which distract the public from the principal issue facing the country--namely, the war. The committee regards it as its first duty to remind people of this.

Mr Yazdi added: Some of the issues referred to the committee concerned newspapers, and there were four complaints about ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, one about MIZAN and one about JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI. They were put on the committee's agenda to be investigated. We also received a number of unsigned letters. I hereby formally announce that the committee disregards unsigned letters.

COMMISSION INVESTIGATING TORTURE PUBLISHES REPORT

GF192012 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 May 81

[From the evening press review]

[Text] The evening press highlights the report submitted by the commission investigating rumors about torture in Iranian prisons to the imam of the nation. The commission includes two representatives of the imam, representatives of the Majlis, the Council of the Guardians, the Tehran prosecutor general and the coroner of the Tehran general court.

In its report, the commission describes the general situation in Iranian prisons as satisfactory.

Referring to Evin Prison, the commission reports: The situation in Evin Prison is satisfactory. The prisoners' health and food is very satisfactory. Everyone in this prison--prisoners, guards or judges--is given the same food.

The prisoners are free to read papers, magazines and books. They take part in various sports such as volleyball, basketball and football. There are 1,200 prisoners, most of whom committed crimes against our people during the defunct regime. Some of them committed crimes after the revolution.

In its report the commission says that international smugglers of narcotics, gold and hard currency, who were frightened as a result of their constant pursuit by the authorities, tried to seize upon violations by some of those working in the sector combatting narcotics and smuggling so as to undermine their reputations and magnificent achievements.

The commission says that groups opposed to the Islamic revolution resort to various methods in slandering the reputation of our Islamic Republic and seek to make the Iranian people doubt the government which the people themselves have chosen, or at least make the people indifferent to what is happening so that the enemies of the revolution and of the people could implement their plots and tie Iran once again to the wagon of international oppression.

The rumors disseminated by those hostile to the Islamic revolution and its leaders against our people and government--rumors spread by the radios of the United States, Britain and the FRG and those allied to them, such as the Zionist entity and the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and the suspect press--proceed from such a premise.

The commission's report adds: When they found that there was an investigation of the truth about torture, the counterrevolutionaries resorted to two tactics: First, they abducted innocent people from the streets and tortured them, pretending that they were revolution guards, and then released their victims. The second tactic was that these counterrevolutionaries tortured some of their own elements with their agreement, accusing the Islamic revolution guards of committing such actions to consequently prove that torture exists in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The report adds: The enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran resorted to other tactics to undermine the reputation of the Islamic Republic, such as provoking clashes with prison guards and compelling them to defend themselves, or provoking clashes with prison guards and compelling them to defend themselves, or provoking clashes among various political factions inside prisons--resulting in injuries and beatings and so on and so forth--so as to level accusations at the prison authorities.

PARS: KHUZESTAN PIPELINE FIRE UNDER CONTROL

LD200936 Tehran PARS in English 0758 GMT 20 May 81

[Text] Tehran, 20 May (PARS)--The fire which had (?broken out) on Saturday [as received] night in the oil and liquid gas pipelines which pass from a distance of 40 kilometers (?from) the Agha Jari-Mahshahr road was put under control at 4:30 a.m. on Tuesday. Maintenance activities of the pipelines started as soon as the fire was controlled.

The fire was caused by explosives which had been placed under these oil and gas pipelines by counterrevolutionaries. The [word indistinct] have been (?controlled) [word indistinct] the first hours, but the fire-fighting officers had to let the remainder of the oil in the pipes burn so that they could prevent the oil and gas from leaking out onto the land because the pipes are quite near to the road and might have created other hazards as well.

COMMUNIQUE 507 ON BATTLES IN SOUTH, WEST

LD191910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 May 81

[Communique 507 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Some of the battle operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran that took place during the past 24 hours are brought to your attention as follows:

A. Southern fronts:

On the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts our combative forces opened fire on enemy positions and set on fire several tanks, three vehicles, one loader, several trenches and foxholes, several observation points and an ammunition store. In response, Saddam's soldiers opened fire on residential districts of Abadan, which resulted in some loss and damage.

During a series of successful operations on the Abadan front, combative forces killed at least 55 enemy personnel and wounded 77. Our forces also destroyed several enemy tanks and personnel carriers, one machinegun, one vehicle carrying enemy personnel and two foxholes.

On the Abadan-Mahshahr highway, fighter aircraft of the Airborne Division of the Islamic Republic of Iran set ablaze and destroyed several enemy tanks, one vehicle and one ammunition dump. In this region, our artillery units destroyed one enemy personnel carrier, one observation post and two ammunition-carrying vehicles.

On the west Karkheh front, our forces opened fire on positions of Saddam's invaders, destroying four tanks, six foxholes and one ammunition dump. Approximately 8 enemy personnel were killed and 12 were wounded, while in the Reqabiyah region 1 enemy tank was destroyed and 10 Iraqi aggressors were killed. As a result of artillery fire by our forces on the Susangerd front, one enemy BMP-1 personnel carrier was destroyed. Our combatants also opened fire on a parking place for enemy trucks in 'Ayn-e Khush and inflicted some losses on the invaders.

B. Western fronts:

Fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed the Khaneqin oil refinery and also inflicted some damage on two industrial installations in Mowsil and Arbil.

At 1330 yeaterday one of our air force aircraft was hit by enemy air defense fire and crashed in the vicinity of Qasr-e Shirin. The pilot parachuted from the aircraft.

As a result of artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions in the region of (Pirbustan) and Kharmal on the opposite side of Marivan, three Iraqi vehicles, one petrol storage tank and one command vehicle were destroyed and several Iraqi personnel were either killed or wounded.

In the region of Daraki, four vehicles carrying ammunition for the Iraqi Armed Forces were set on fire.

Enemy fire destroyed several residential houses in the Dezli region.

Artillery and mortar fire exchanges continued between our forces and the enemy on the Kan-e Sakht heights and on the Shur-e Shirin and Meymak fronts. The army of Islam had superior firepower in the above-named regions.

Intense fire by our brave combatants destroyed 1 enemy vehicle, 2 fuel tankers and 1 ammunition dump in Bajgiran, in the Gilan-e Gharb region; 10 of Saddam's mercenaries were also killed.

At 0700 yesterday two enemy aircraft bombed part of Nowdesheh and inflicted some losses and damage.

Our combatants opened heavy fire on Panjwin garrison, part of which was set on fire. At least 20 of Saddam's soldiers were either killed or wounded and tens of vehicles parked in the garrison were destroyed.

On 17 May 13 members of our forces gained the exalted status of martyrdom and took the shortest route to paradise and deliverance. Eight of these brothers were from the Ground Forces and five were personnel of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS CORPS COMMUNIQUE ON BATTLES IN WEST

LD191946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 May 81

[Communique issued by the Public Relations Office of the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Strive for victory in the battlefield of struggle between God and Satan!

Our heroic, Islamic nation is hereby informed of operations undertaken during the past 2 days by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps on the battlefields of Islam versus blasphemy as follows:

1. Gilan-e Gharb: The enemy's oil installations in Naftkhanah, in Iraq, overlooking the Naftshahr region became the target of fire from the combatants of Islam and were set ablaze. During these operations, damage and losses were inflicted on the enemy's economic resources and 10 infidel servicemen were killed.

2. Following some crushing operations launched by our brothers from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the Bang Siran region, one enemy ammunition dump and one command jeep of Saddam's forces were destroyed. During these operations our heroes destroyed several trenches belonging to the Ba'thist forces and killed 10 enemy aggressor troops.

3. An operational team of our guards brothers succeeded in raiding the Parikeh base and the Sheykh Daleh border post, which were the headquarters of the mercenary counterrevolutionaries. They inflicted losses and casualties on the mercenaries before ridding the area of their filthy presence. After their retreat from the scene, several counterrevolutionaries fled to Iraqi territory.

4. Thanks to the Islamic revolution guards' gunfire, several ammunition huts, one command jeep and two fuel tankers of the forces of the infidel Saddam were hit and destroyed on one of the Gilan-e Gharb fronts.

5. On 17 May the combatants of Islam carried out mopping-up operations in the hamlets of Kuleh and Babari on the Sanandaj-Divan Darreh axis and in the hamlet of Nureh on the Sanandaj-Marivan axis. During these mopping-up operations, a number of armed outlaws were either killed or wounded and quantities of ammunition were captured by our guards corps combatants.

[Signed] The Public Relations Office of the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

STRIKERS DEMAND INQUIRY INTO OFFICIAL NEGLIGENCE

GF191607 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Members of the Union of Islamic Societies of Sepidan staged a sit-in strike today at the governor general's office. Our reporter informed us that the sit-in was held to protest against negligence by those in authority with regard to counterrevolutionaries and (?feudalists). The strikers requested that Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Mohammad Dastgheyb conduct an inquiry into these matters.

KURDISH RADIO REPORTS ATTACK ON URUMIYEH GARRISON

TA151445 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian to Iran 1315 GMT 15 May 81

[Text] According to a report received by us on 11 May the combatant peshmerga of the Kurdish Democratic Party [words indistinct] launched heavy attacks on the Urumiyeh garrison, and in the space of 2 hours pounded it with light and heavy weapons. As a result of this heroic attack considerable damage was inflicted on the garrison and its facilities. No accurate reports have been received on the number of the enemy's dead and injured. After carrying out these operations, the heroic peshmerga of the [words indistinct] returned safely to their bases.

KURDS REPORTEDLY FOIL GUARDS' ATTACKS

NC161852 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] A Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that Kurdish combatants have thwarted the revolution guards' attack on the Uramanat heights. In this clash, a large number of guards were either killed or injured (?and many) fled.

In another attack carried out by Kurdish fighters against a revolution guards' base in (?Nowcheh), a number of guards were killed or injured.

The Kurdish fighters, who control about 3/4 of the Kordestan region, have recently intensified their attacks against the guards and Khomeyni's lackeys. The repeated defeats faced by the guards in Kordestan has led to the flight of many mercenary guards from the Kurdish-inhabited areas to safer areas.

The combatant Kurds have once again announced that the men of the armed forces and of the gendarmerie (?will not be shot at), and that only the revolution guards will be attacked. The Kurds have also reiterated that anyone in the armed forces or gendarmerie who wants to join them will be fully guarded and will be safe. But those intending to attack to commit fratricide will be severely crushed.

The Kurds' attacks are intensifying following the indifference shown by Khomeyni's regime to their proposal for talks.

RADIO IRAN: AFGHAN MERCENARIES HIRED BY KHOMEYNI

GF181826 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Following clashes in the (?Dalahu) region between nationalist Kurdish peshmerga and Khomeyni's mercenary guards, three of the guards were killed. According to reports from the area, the three slain guards were Afghan mercenaries recently hired and armed by the Khomeyni regime and sent to Kordestan.

In earlier clashes, Kurdish militants confronted Khomeyni's Afghan guards and killed a number of them. According to reliable sources and reports reaching us, Islamic Republic officials during the past few months have hired a number of Afghans and sent them to suppress Kurdish and Baluchi combatants of these regions.

FREE VOICE OF IRAN ON CLASHES IN BALUCHESTAN

NC191738 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Sistan va Baluchestan that in an attack against Khomeyni's armed forces the brave Baluchi combatants killed and wounded a large number of them. The clash followed the assassination of Mowlavi Seyyed Mohammad Bor, the pseudoclergyman who collaborated with Khomeyni.

In this clash, the brave Baluchi strugglers defeated Khomeyni's armed forces.

In a statement the brave Baluchi strugglers have pointed out that any fratricidal attempt by Khomeyni's armed forces will be strongly crushed. In the statement the Baluchi strugglers have called on their brothers in the armed forces to fully observe the antinational, anti-Islamic and anti-Iranian objectives of Khomeyni's regime and to refrain from clashing with the Baluchi strugglers because the direct objective of the Baluchi combatants' attacks is Khomeyni's revolution guards and the clique affiliated to Khomeyni's abominable regime. In conclusion, the Baluchi combatants called on their military brothers to rise against Khomeyni's rule of oppression and suppression and to join them.

Radio Iran on Fighting

NC191513 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Following the execution of Seyyed Mohammad Bor, the pseudocleric and traitor who cooperated with Khomeyni's sinister regime against Baluchi freedom fighters, the brave Baluchi combatants killed members of the search party as well. Reports from Saravan indicate that agents sent in search of the killers of Mohammad clashed with Baluchi combatants 32 km from Saravan; during these bloody clashes all of Khomeyni's agents were killed.

The reports also state that the search party consisted of 14 men, two of whom were SAVAMA agents and the remaining 12 revolution guards. Fortunately, no Baluchis were killed in the clashes and only two were wounded. After the clashes, the Baluchi combatants confiscated 12 machineguns, 10 Colt guns and a quantity of bullets. Following this incident, the Baluchi combatants repeated their announcement in Baluchestan that each traitor can expect the same fate.

RADIO IRAN: SAVAK AGENTS HIRED TO ORGANIZE SAVAMA

NC151556 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 15 May 81

[Text] Two former expert agents of SAVAK have been sent by the Islamic Republic to Paris. Reports received in Paris indicate that two professional SAVAK agents, who have been employed by the mullahs to organize the SAVAMA organization, were sent 10 days ago with diplomatic titles to the Islamic Republic's Embassy in Paris. These reports state that these two are charged with the mission of employing hezbollahis to disrupt meetings and demonstrations by opponents of Khomeyni's regime, to prepare reports on the political activities of Iranian students and engage in other espionage activities.

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ATTEMPT ON BEHESHTI'S LIFE

NC162259 (Clandestine) Voice or Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 16 May 81

[Summary] Following the news on the assassination attempt against Mohammad Beheshti, a Voice of Iran correspondent started investigations which revealed that the military branch of the Pars organization has undertaken the responsibility for this act. A statement issued by the organization says that on "25 Farvardin 2540 of the imperial calendar [14 April] combatant youths of the Pars organization's military branch" opened machinegun fire on Mohammad Beheshti, who was visiting an Iranian movie star at her residence "with whom he was holding Islamic talks." One (?revolution guard) was killed during the incident, while Beheshti and the movie star were seriously injured. No reports have been published by the regime's officials, while immediately after this incident reports were sent to (?the AFP correspondent), to some newspapers and to the Turkish Embassy. The organization's statement ends by assuring that struggles will continue until the downfall of the regime and the reestablishment of justice in Iran.